FACTS about a Youth Services/Juvenile Receiving DAY Center For Tooele County

- 1. Tooele County is the most populous county in the State of Utah without a Youth Services/Juvenile Receiving Center, and the 2nd largest (by square miles) county in the state..
- 2. In 2005, 130 individual youth from Tooele County were transported to Salt Lake County Juvenile Receiving Center. 101 of these youth were transported by their parents, and 29 were transported by law enforcement officers. Parent transport is inherently dangerous: out of control, angry, and even violent youth are difficult passengers. Law enforcement officers are often unavailable for transport due to the realities of rapid growth in the county that become a higher priority: "boots on the ground" are needed.
- 3. Juvenile court judges serving in Tooele County have no "intermediate sanctions" to apply to truant, runaway, and/or status offender youth, so are left with "home confinement". This amounts to no sanctions at all. Tooele School District reports a 41% increase in court referrals for truancy from 06/07 to 07/08 school years.
- 4. Without local early intervention services such as a JRC, there was an increase of 24.8% of Tooele County youth being admitted to <u>lock-down detention facilities</u> from 2004 to 2005. Community-based early intervention through a youth services/juvenile receiving center has the potential to stem that flow of youth into more restrictive, higher cost placements. In addition, JJS community-based treatment with family involvement is a proven evidence-based practice that is currently not available in Tooele County.
- 5. Initially, the Tooele JRC would operate 8am-8pm, Monday-Friday. This includes time for family therapy, youth counseling, in-house "school", and group counseling. As the needs or numbers of youth increase, a 24/7 operation may be required in the future.
- 6. Major community partners in the development of this proposal are:

<u>Tooele County Commission</u>, which allocated **\$247,000** of county funds for the purchase of a building to house a Community Support Center that includes space for a Tooele County Youth Services/JRC.

Tooele County Commission, which received an additional \$100,000 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the Community Support Center.

<u>Tooele County School District</u>, which will provide a teacher for the Youth Services/JRC.

<u>Tooele Valley Mental Health</u>, which will allocate all of its UT-CAN (Utah Transformation of Child and Adolescent Networks) one-time funding (\$30,000) towards clinical staffing for the Youth Services/JRC.

7. This project has broad community support, including law enforcement, education, workforce development, business, and human services, both public and private.